

Advocacy



Advocacy focuses on the needs of the children and non-offending caregiver(s). Advocates provide needed support, referrals and information along with a compassionate, listening ear. The goal of advocacy is to help the family navigate the system while supporting them through a difficult time. Advocacy services are available from the first contact and throughout the recovery process.

Making a referral

Advocacy is available for any person who needs support and knowledge regarding abuse or trauma. Referrals for advocacy services can be made by any Multidisciplinary Team member, parent, or other agency concerned about the child's well-being by calling your local CAC to speak with an advocate. All clients coming to the CAC will be provided advocacy services during their visits and on-going as needed. Alleged Offenders are not allowed at the CAC and cannot participate in advocacy.

Where will advocacy occur?

Advocacy services may occur in multiple ways. It may occur at your local CAC, over the phone or by accompanying a family to court.

How does advocacy happen?

An advocate at the CAC will visit with the caregiver to offer services, education, support and provide a listening ear. When appropriate they will conduct an in depth assessment which will help us determine appropriate services for the family. The CAC offers a variety of resources to support children and families in crisis.



**CHILDREN'S
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Advocacy may include but is not limited to:

- Crisis intervention and support
- Attendance of interviews and case review
- Greeting and orientation of children to the CAC
- Education regarding the coordinated multidisciplinary team response
- Education regarding child abuse, signs of trauma, parenting and self care
- Providing updates to the family on the case
- Assessment of the child's/family's attitudes and feelings about the case
- Provision of court education/support/accompaniment
- Working with the team to secure transportation to interviews, court, treatment and other case-related meetings
- Assistance in helping the family access services such as food, crime victims compensation, transportation and more
- Providing referrals for mental health and medical treatment
- Providing information on the rights of a crime victim

Children's Advocacy Centers in North Dakota are child-friendly settings that coordinates and provides services for children who may have been abused. The CAC's helps hundreds of North Dakota children each year using evidence-based practices.



Dakota Children's
ADVOCACY CENTER



Northern Plains
Children's Advocacy Center

RED RIVER
CHILDREN'S
ADVOCACY CENTER



Dakota Children's Advocacy Center

1303 E Central Ave
Bismarck, ND 58501
(701) 323-5626
www.dakotacac.org

Northern Plains Children's Advocacy Center

20 1st St SW #202
Minot, ND 58701
(701) 852-0836
www.northernplainscac.org

Red River Children's Advocacy Center

100 S 4th St #302
Fargo, ND 58103
(701) 234-4580
www.rrcac.org